UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Petitioner)	Dismissal Without Prejudice
Beverly Morse)	Docket No. 12-0119
In re:)	[AWG]

- 1. Petitioner Beverly Morse, also known as Beverly Jean Morse ("Petitioner Morse") is represented by Karen Merrill Tjapkes, Esq., with Legal Aid of Western Michigan.
- 2. Rural Development, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), is the Respondent ("USDA Rural Development"). USDA Rural Development is represented by Michelle Tanner.
- 3. A Hearing by telephone scheduled for February 28, 2012 was not held, because Petitioner Morse filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy on February 27, 2012, in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Western District of Michigan, Case Number 12-01594.
- 4. As a result of Ms. Morse's Chapter 7 bankruptcy filing, USDA Rural Development will not at this time pursue any type of collection on the debt owed to USDA. USDA Rural Development will recall the debt from Treasury and will monitor the bankruptcy to determine the outcome. If the debt is discharged in bankruptcy, USDA Rural Development will not pursue any collection effort; if the debt is not discharged in bankruptcy, USDA Rural Development may return the debt to Treasury for future collection efforts such as wage garnishment.
- 5. Accordingly, this case DISMISSED, without prejudice to Petitioner Morse to request a hearing timely, should garnishment be noticed.

Copies of this Dismissal Without Prejudice shall be served by the Hearing Clerk upon each of the parties, **together with** copies of the February 27, 2012 filings FAXED by Ms. Tjapkes.

Done at Washington, D.C. this 8th day of March 2012

s/ Jill S. Clifton

Jill S. Clifton Administrative Law Judge

Karen Merrill Tjapkes, Esq. Legal Aid of Western Michigan 89 Ionia Ave NW Suite 400 Grand Rapids MI 49503 ktjapkes@legalaidwestmich.net

616-774-0672, ext 120 phone 616-774-2412 FAX

Michelle Tanner, Appeals Coordinator USDA / RD Centralized Servicing Center Bldg 105 E, FC-244 4300 Goodfellow Blvd St Louis MO 63120-1703

<u>michelle.tanner@stl.usda.gov</u> 314-457-5775 phone 314-457-4547 FAX

Hearing Clerk's Office U.S. Department of Agriculture South Building Room 1031 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington DC 20250-9203 202-720-4443

Fax: 202-720-9776